

Weaver-  
The<sup>v</sup>Hough House  
Newfoundland, Morris County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-427

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14-NEWFO.V.  
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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Seymour Williams, B.A.I.A., District Officer  
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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The Hough House  
Newfoundland, Morris County, New Jersey

Owner: City of Newark

Date of Erection: 1775 according to the cornerstone

Architect:

Builder: Probably William Weaver

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - stone with  
frame gables; frame addition  
of later date on the west  
elevation

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

The City of Newark acquired the property from Isadore Markowitz in 1931. It consisted of three tracts: the first of seventy-five acres, the second of twenty-five acres, and third a little over three acres. The third tract was purchased from the Weaver family by Joseph Hough in 1871. The second tract was originally purchased in 1823 by William Weaver from Lemuel Cobb. This second tract was easy to trace. We found that a larger tract which included the acreage of the second part was returned

on June 10, 1823 to Lemuel Cobb and recorded in the Surveyor's General office at Perth Amboy.

The seventy-five acres was difficult to trace. It was more or less lost before 1855 when Garret S. Demarest transferred the two tracts to John J. Jacobus. Garret had received the twenty-two acre tract from Samuel Demarest. He apparently assembled the seventy-five acre piece or else got it from the estate of William Weaver, for in the Morris County records there is a release from Horace Laroe and wife, apparently a Weaver, to Garret Demarest of their right and interest in the estate of William Weaver. There is also a release from a Thomas W. Fredericks to Garret Demarest. No description is given of the property released, but there is another property deeded by Henry Weaver and wife to Garret S. Demarest under date of May 23, 1840 of twenty-six acres more or less, and by its boundaries we have determined that this was along the line of the William Weaver farm. This particular tract bought of Henry Weaver had been returned to Andrew Bell and it is also recorded in the Surveyor's General office at Perth Amboy. It would appear from this that the tract of land upon which this house stands came originally in pieces from what had been the farm of William Weaver. There is on record at the Morris County office only one entry which concerns William Weaver, but this entry, clearly shows that Weaver got the land from the proprietors heirs, and the record of the return is recorded at Perth Amboy.

In the light of these findings we have seen fit to assume that William Weaver was the probable builder of the house. It is known locally as The Hough House and has been so-called. It was in the Hough family from 1858 until 1930.

Bibliography:

A search of Morris County court records  
by Frank P. Caufield, Essex County Office,  
and a checking of maps in Beers' Atlas of  
Morris County in the Hall of Records at  
Morristown (Title page missing)

Walter C. Ridd  
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams  
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, F.A.I.A.  
District Officer